

GERMAN ARMY DOUBLED SINCE WAR OF 1870-71

Gigantic Task Begun by Bismarck Is Continued Year by Year.

FAIR AHEAD OF FRANCE
Peace Strength More Than
Doubled Since Franco-
Prussian Conflict.

MILITARY PARTY ACTIVE

Strengthened Units of Army
Until No Young Man Es-
caped Service.

Since the day when Germany, having emerged in triumph from the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71, decided to make her army the most potent engine of destruction in the world, she has not hesitated a single day in the gigantic task undertaken by Bismarck. The manner in which that method of preparation for the new war, which was even then looked upon as inevitable, has been carried out is described in great detail in a book just published in Paris by M. Poincaré, who is the author of several works on military history and organization.

In the forty-three years which have passed since the day of the peace of Versailles, the military forces of the empire across the Rhine have more than doubled, while those of France have increased only 50 per cent. Here are the figures giving the respective strengths of the standing armies of Germany and France at the end of the war and at present.

FRANCE	GERMANY
Officers, 13,000	Officers, 13,000
Men, 400,000	Men, 800,000
Total, 413,000	Total, 813,000

Present Peace Strength.

FRANCE	GERMANY
Jan. 1, 1914	Jan. 1, 1914
Officers, 13,000	Officers, 13,000
Men, 400,000	Men, 800,000
Total, 413,000	Total, 813,000

Raising of Funds.

M. Poincaré, a military expert, points out that in Germany the annual expenses of the military establishment and the plans for the expenditure of more money are not submitted each year to Parliament. They are drawn up for a long period and the budget covers for a certain number of years, on one occasion as long as eight, not only the current expenses but the entire reorganization schemes for that period.

For this reason it is not necessary to study in detail every yearly addition to the Kaiser's forces. The evolution of the German army today is plainly set forth in the laws covering military development. A resume of these laws shows in a comprehensive manner the continuity of effort on the part of the German military chiefs since the last war with France.

At the close of the year 1871 the German army comprised:

- Four hundred and sixty-five squadrons of cavalry.
- Four hundred and sixty-nine battalions of infantry.
- Three hundred field batteries.
- Twenty-five batteries of garrison artillery.
- Eighteen train battalions.

These forces were formed in eighteen army corps comprising 17,000 officers and 413,000 men, a total peace strength of 430,000.

Units Increased by Law.

For some years there was no appreciable change in the military establishment, but beginning in 1880 a series of laws were passed which increased the number of units and developed the technical details. These successive increases were executed in an ever increasing proportion. It may be said that in the growth of the German army, Germany was pushed on by what physicists term "accelerated velocity."

The important details of the various laws are as follows:

Law of May 6, 1880.—The effective strength was raised to 427,000 men with the creation of thirty-four infantry battalions, forty field batteries, two battalions of garrison artillery and one battalion of engineers.

Law of February 11, 1888.—An increase of 10,000 officers and 40,000 men was ordered. The army now consisted of 465 squadrons of cavalry, 534 battalions of infantry, 364 field batteries, thirty-one battalions of garrison artillery, nineteen battalions of engineers and eighteen train battalions.

Law of July 15, 1890.—Certain units of the army having too large a number of men were decided in January, 1890, to form two new army corps, and in July of this year the Reichstag authorized the increase of the army by 19,000 men and the formation of several new units on the pretext that it was necessary to bring the new corps up to the full peace strength.

Law of August 3, 1893.—The population of the empire having shown a vast increase in the previous ten years, it was found that the effective peace strength fixed by the law was made up without having to call on any thousands of young men. All adapted for service, who thus remained at home without military instruction. Military writers called attention to this state of affairs. The Kaiser made a personal examination of the problem and the Government presented to the Reichstag a project lowering the period of military service from three to two years, except for the cavalry and horse artillery branches.

More Men for Service.

In this way, it was argued, a far greater number of men would be able to take service with the colors without an exaggerated increase in the budget. The Reichstag adopted the bill.

The army was thus raised to 19,000 officers and 539,000 men. The following units were formed: One hundred and twenty-fourth infantry battalions of infantry, designed in time of peace to lessen the work of the first, second and third battalions of each regiment, and in time of war to facilitate the enrollment of reserves; 12 squadrons of cavalry; 130 field batteries; 8 battalions of foot artillery; 8 battalions of engineers and 7 battalions of train operators.

Law of March 25, 1899.—Just at the



Gen. Von Moltke, Chief of Staff of the German Army.

TOBACCO PIPE AND SHAVE STARTED TWO HISTORIC WARS

Another Was Caused by a Broken Teapot. While Still Another Resulted From the Theft of a Petticoat.

Opinions may differ as to whether the dispute which led to the present conflagration in Europe were sufficient to justify the loss of blood and treasure which it is feared will be expended, but it is certain that many great wars in history have resulted from much more trivial causes. The dogs of war have been let loose on continents deluged with blood frequently as the result of amazingly insignificant incidents.

A man may start an incipient riot in his own home by appearing unannounced with a clean shave after having worn a luxuriant hairdo adorned for years, but ordinarily the trouble does not go beyond his own door. Louis VII, of France, was less fortunate. He went to the royal barber plucked two hairs from the crown of his head and the result was the French and English—into intermittent warfare which lasted 300 years.

According to the story, the Archbishop of Rouen persuaded the King to remove his beard, in common with his subjects. The act led to so much friction with the Queen that at last Louis divorced her, to become a few months later the wife of Henry II, of England. From this marriage centuries of bloodshed may be said to have followed.

In an iron case in the tower of the Cathedral in Modena, Italy, a bucket which 900 years ago was the cause of a terrible war may be seen to-day. Soldiers of Modena in a mischievous mood stole the bucket from a public well in Bologna and refused to return it. The States were rivals and were jealous of each other and fights between soldiers of the two followed. This spark kindled a fire of which the bucket was the cause. Two of Europe and led to the imprisonment for life of the King of Sicily, son of the German Emperor.

Broken Teapot Started War.

A broken teapot started a war in China 250 years ago which cost half a million lives. The teapot was the cherished possession of a dignitary high in favor with the Emperor. When traveling through a lawless province in the north-west of China some of his retinue who had fallen behind the main body were intercepted by a band of robbers, and among the spoils the teapot was found and contemptuously thrown on the ground and broken. The Mandarin reported his loss to the Emperor, a force of soldiers was sent out, and a long and terrible war ensued.

Lord Palmerston once said that only three men had ever known the exact nature of the troubles in Schleswig-Holstein which led to two great wars. Two of them had died before the wars broke out, and he, the third of the trinity, had completely forgotten what it was all about.

The manipulation by Count Bismarck, time when the representatives of the nations of the world gathered at The Hague for the International Peace Congress the German military power, not satisfied with the recent increases in the army, started a violent campaign with the aim of proving that in view of the double danger which threatened Germany, France on her eastern frontier and Russia on her eastern border—fresh reinforcements were necessary. The militarists won their fight.

The Reichstag authorized the increase of the number of army corps to twenty-three and the peace strength to 567,000 men. It was decided also that the fourth half battalions should be formed into whole battalions, while fresh units were ordered to be formed so as to make the effective of the imperial army comprise the following forces:

- Six hundred and twenty-five battalions of infantry.
- Four hundred and eighty-two squadrons of cavalry.
- Pive hundred and seventy-four field batteries.
- Thirty-eight battalions of foot artillery (heavy artillery and garrison artillery).
- Twenty-six battalions of sappers.
- Eleven battalions of communication line troops.
- Twenty-three train battalions.

150,000 Added to Army.

In two decades Germany had added 150,000 men to her army, increasing the number of army corps from eighteen to twenty-three.

At the same time France had twenty army corps. The French army had been increased from 425,000 men to 550,216, an increase of 125,216.

The new and important development in the German army, says M. Poincaré, was a triumph for the German military party, which never ceased repeating that every day of hesitation about an increase

then Prussia's Foreign Minister, of a telegram sent Prussia and France flying at the court's throat in 1870. The French Ambassador went to Rome, where Emperor William I, then was, to ask him not to approve the ambition of Prince Leopold to become the King of Spain. The King refused to give definite answer, but Prince Anthony of Hohenzollern withdrew his son's candidacy. A report of the conference was submitted by telegram to Count Bismarck with authorization to publish it. Bismarck altered the text, and in the changed form gave it to the newspapers and through them to France. As Bismarck wrote it the report was unfavorable to France, and the French ambassador with all its horrors followed. Years later Bismarck confessed the forgery.

Over a Glass of Water.

The war of the Spanish succession, in which the great Duke of Marlborough played a brilliant part, was said to be the outcome of a glass of water at a ball at the Tuilleries in Paris. One of the ladies had expressed a wish for a drink of water in the hearing of the British and Spanish Ambassadors, who hastened to get it for her. Returning with a tumbler they found the fair Castilian had been dancing with a French statesman. The English diplomat, accidentally, it is presumed, brushed against the Spaniard and upset the glass he was carrying. This ridiculous incident inflamed the jealousies of the nations and turned the balance in favor of war.

The Seven Years war was largely due, according to his own confession, to the vanity of Frederick the Great in wanting to see his name figure largely in the gazettes.

The Sepoys believed that cartridges served out to them were greased with the fat of animals unclean alike to Hindu and Mohammedan, and the Indian Mutiny was precipitated.

The Turkish-Russian war was said to have been started by the hammer with which a Russian blacksmith killed a tax collector who had insulted his daughter.

The stealing of a Castle lady's lace petticoat by a Moor led to many years of fierce warfare between the Spaniards and the Moors. The emptying of a bucket of a Florentine citizen on the head of a Milanese gave rise to an international war in Italy.

Borrowing a tobacco pipe and failing to return it kindled a civil war which lasted for years among the rival races in Pamirs and Afghanistan. A dispute as to the relative attractions of snails and oysters led to foot started fifty years of fighting between Milan and Pisa.

led to decadence and death."

Law of April 15, 1905.—The effective was increased by 10,000 men and eighteen new squadrons of cavalry were added. General mobilization plans were reorganized and the aero branch of the military organization was started. It was at this time that first importance was attached not to an increase in numbers but to the development of the "technical" branches of the army, without which no really modern army exists.

Law of March 7, 1911.—This measure was only a complement of the law of 1905. An increase of 10,000 men was ordered and this increase was aimed at making more effective the railroad service, the aeronautic service, telegraph and transportation branches. There was also a great development in heavy artillery destined to give inestimable aid to the troops in the field with powerful weapons of long range.

Law of June 14, 1912.—The reorganization ordered by the law of 1911 was to be effective for five years, but the events of the summer of this year—when the Agadir incident brought Germany and France to the brink of war—gave the Government the opportunity to jump the intervening stages and demand immediate authorization for a new reorganization.

Still Greater Strength.

The effective was forthwith raised to 554,000 officers, 90,000 non-commissioned officers, 544,000 soldiers, which added to the 14,000 volunteers and 40,000 men in the administrative branches or assimilated to other departments brought the total strength to 721,000 men.

This great increase was utilized to reinforce the actual units and form new ones as follows: Seventeen battalions of infantry, six squadrons of cavalry, thirty mounted batteries, eleven horse batteries.

Continued on Second Page

ADVISES US TO SEEK SOUTH AMERICAN TRADE

Buenos Ayres Paper Urges
United States to Exert
Itself.

Special Correspondence to The Sun.
BUENOS AYRES, July 12.—The committee of American manufacturers who last visited this country has, says La Nacion, published a report which has been handed to the Department of Commerce. The committee admits that North American trade is beaten by that of Great Britain, Germany and other European countries which, it asserts, carry on an industrious campaign against American interests.

First, the fact of all banking interests being in foreign hands hampers commercial expansion and from these premises it follows that the first essential is to establish branches of North American banking institutions in this part of the world. La Nacion remarks that this view is tantamount to putting the cart before the horse, since before the European banks attained their present importance commercial relations had grown to such an extent as to warrant the foundation and expansion of institutions connected with the financing of the ever growing trade.

To establish banks before there was any interchange of commodities to speak of would be a premature move, the paper argues, since only by the help of each other's trade, such institutions carry on a normal business. From an internal point of view the establishment of new competitors in the banking world would call for concerns dowered with large capital and able to offer better facilities than existing banks if they were to be successful, since they would have to meet opposition that could not be won down at once.

To profitably meet such a move, the North American plan calls for carefully thought out and patient measures calculated to bring the two countries together, particularly in so far as means of communication are concerned. It is believed that President Wilson, following in the steps of Mr. Roosevelt, who himself adopted a suggestion made by Mr. Root after his visit here, has a more practical line before him in the shape of proposed subsidies to shipping companies linking this country to the United States, though the proposal was rejected by the Senate.

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